



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

**FBIS-AFR-90-012
Thursday
18 January 1990**

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-90-012

CONTENTS

18 January 1990

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Third IGADD Summit Opens in Djibouti 16 Jan	1
Sudan's Al-Bashir Opens Conference [Khartoum SUNA]	1
Ministers Approve Annual Budget [Nairobi KNA]	1
Kenya's Moi Addresses Summit [Nairobi Radio]	1
Djibouti's Hassan Speaks [Djibouti Radio]	2
Hassan, Al-Bashir Confer [Omdurman Radio]	2
Moi, Al-Bashir Meet [Nairobi Radio]	2

EAST AFRICA

Djibouti

Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi Arrives [Nairobi Radio]	4
Sudan Ready To Continue Operation Lifeline [Khartoum SUNA]	4

Ethiopia

Foreign Minister Meets Diplomats on Rebel Support [AFP]	4
Government Cites 'Strong Action' Against Enemy [Addis Ababa Radio]	5
EPRDF Rebels Claim Kuta Ber 'Recaptured' [Voice of Ethiopian Broad Masses]	5

Kenya

Official Denies BBC Reports on Fleeing Somalis [DAILY NATION 17 Jan]	6
--	---

Somalia

Somali National Movement Reports Victories [Radio of Somali National Movement]	6
--	---

Uganda

Renewed Rebel Activity Reported in West District [BBC]	7
--	---

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

UDF To Operate 'Openly' in 'Challenge' to State [Umtata Radio]	8
Minister Vlok Comments [SAPA]	8
'Softening' of Role of ANC's Armed Wing Likely [BUSINESS DAY 18 Jan]	8
State To Review Restrictions on Banned Groups [SAPA]	8
'Moderate' Black Leaders Meet Education Minister [SAPA]	8
SATS, SARHWU To Employ Strike Mediator [SAPA]	9
British Railway Union Delegate Faces Deportation [SAPA]	9
De Klerk Meets With Ciskeian President [Johannesburg Radio]	9
18 Jan Press Review on Current Problems, Issues [THE STAR, etc.]	10

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Namibia

Constituent Assembly Committee Resumes 17 Jan [Windhoek Radio]	11
Constituent Assembly Postpones Sitting to 25 Jan [SAPA]	11

Zambia

ANC's Sisulu Discusses 'Need' for Armed Struggle [Johannesburg Radio]	11
Urges Mandela's Immediate Release [Lusaka Radio]	11
Advocates Possible Talks With State [Maputo International]	12

Zimbabwe

House of Assembly Extends State of Emergency [SAPA]	12
Information Minister Views Changes in East Europe [SAPA]	12

WEST AFRICA

Benin

Private Bank Begins Operations in Cotonou [Cotonou Radio]	13
---	----

Ghana

120 Citizens Said Deported From Burkina Faso [Accra Radio]	13
--	----

Ivory Coast

Liberian Radio Claims French Troops Deployed [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	13
Cabinet Cites 'Genocide' on Liberian Border [Abidjan Radio]	13
WHO Sends Emergency Aid to Liberian Refugees [BBC]	14

Liberia

Vice President Addresses National Legislature [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	14
Church Leaders Meet Doe, Condemn Dissident Acts [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	14

Third IGADD Summit Opens in Djibouti 16 Jan

Sudan's Al-Bashir Opens Conference

EA1601225190 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT
16 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 16 Jan: Lt-Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council, has stressed that the transformations being witnessed by the world affect the region, which relies on joint action among the states of the region to contain those transformations. In his address today opening the third Inter-Governmental Authority on Drought and Development [IGADD] summit delivered on behalf of the presidents of the organization's member states, his excellency called for cooperation and joint action to protect the (environment) and achieve food security. He stressed the need for the member states to support the current IGADD president to enable the organization to achieve its future objectives. At the beginning of his speech on behalf of the presidents, he thanked the people and government of Djibouti for hosting the conference. He lauded President Hassan Gouled Aptidon, post president of the organization, for his efforts to enable IGADD to become an organization able to plan and execute development programs. [passage omitted]

Ministers Approve Annual Budget

EA1701094490 Nairobi KNA in English 1415 GMT
16 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Djibouti, 16th January (KNA)—Ministers responsible for environmental management from the six East African countries who are members of the Inter-Governmental Authority on drought and development (IGADD) have expressed concern over the contribution by the member states to the organisation's annual budget last year.

The ministers, who have been meeting in Djibouti for the last three days, however reaffirmed the member states' political will to continue supporting the organisation, despite the harsh economic difficulties facing the member states. [passage omitted]

The six ministers attending the Council of Ministers meeting lamented the persistent economic hardships facing the IGADD member states, whose export commodity prices have slumped to their lowest levels since independence. Worse still, four out of the six member states, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia, have been torn apart by many years of civil war, which has disrupted progress and hindered the implementation of economically viable development projects.

Despite the harsh economic conditions, the ministers approved the annual budget of U.S. dollars 1,151,938 to run the organisation this year. It is the desired hope of the six member countries that with the mobilisation of resources from the international community, the IGADD could assist in drawing up programmes and

projects for implementation by member governments of the organisation at national and subregional level to fight hunger, malnutrition, desertification, and improve on road network to facilitate trade in the region. However, as a result of the stiff conditions imposed by most Western donor agencies, financial assistance is only trickling in at a slower pace than the demand.

Kenya's Moi Addresses Summit

EA1701100790 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today told member countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, IGADD, to consider the merits of increasing their allocation of resources towards agricultural and other research activities. [passage omitted]

The president however appealed to the secretariat to further pursue the recommendations of the IGADD in consultation with the Council of Ministers, with a view to implementing them. President Moi said that a provision of enough food was necessary for the growth of a prosperous and healthy nation, and added that in the IGADD region storage and distribution were the key aspects in food security. He said that besides the need to efficiently exploit food resources in the region, it was also necessary to ensure that there were movements of food from one part of the region to other parts during times of crisis. He said that this would reduce the dependency on food imports from outside the region.

Saying that peace was a prerequisite for development, President Moi said that it was needed so that more energy could be concentrated on producing food, developing water resources, skilled manpower and other necessities of life. President Moi however said that peace could only be achieved through mutual trust and being mindful of the welfare of others.

Saying that IGADD was created in 1986 to assist member states to check against recurrent droughts like in the seventies and the early eighties which caused widespread famine, the president emphasized that determined efforts should be made to curb such a situation.

The president noted that although a lot of progress had been made by the authority in implementing programs such as desertification, agricultural research, manpower development, and interregional communication, there was still a lot to be done. [passage omitted]

The formal opening of the summit which was performed by the outgoing chairman of the authority, President Hassan Gouled Aptidon of Djibouti, was also attended by other heads of state representing their member countries, including General 'Umar al-Bashir of the Sudan and President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda. Ethiopia was represented by Vice President Fisseha Desta, and Somalia the assistant secretary general of the Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party Mr Abd-al-Qadir.

During the plenary session which followed the formal opening, President Moi proposed that Ethiopia be elected as the next chairman of the authority. Although his proposal was unanimously supported and adopted, there was no immediate handover of the chairmanship, since President Mengistu Haile Mariam was not in attendance. It was therefore agreed that President Gouled Aptidon continue to guide the deliberations of the summit until it ends.

Later this evening, the heads of state and delegations in the summit are to attend an official dinner hosted by President Aptidon.

The presidential plane will arrive tomorrow, touching down at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport shortly after 1630 hours. [passage omitted]

Djibouti's Hassan Speaks

*EA1701101690 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali
1700 GMT 16 Jan 90*

[Excerpts] The third summit of the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development [IGADD] opened at the People's Hall here in Djibouti, the capital of the Republic of Djibouti. [passage omitted]

The heads of delegations assembled at the People's Hall at 1600. [passage omitted]

In his welcoming speech, the Djibouti president, Al-Haji Hassan Gouled Aptidon, first and foremost thanked the heads of states and other officials for finding time to attend the third summit of IGADD. He also wished them and the peoples of their countries a prosperous 1990. On behalf of the people, party, and government of Djibouti he welcomed the visitors to Djibouti. The Djibouti president added that we have a lot of problems ahead of us but it is imperative to make every attempt to solve these problems according to their urgency. He said whatever action we take should be tangible at the national and regional levels. He added: We should not rely on foreign assistance in future.

Continuing his address, Al-Haji Hassan Gouled Aptidon said he was not belittling the enormous help we had received from friends of IGADD member states, but we should not take that help for granted. We must strive for food self-sufficiency and aim to open up new marginal areas and attempt to grow nontraditional food crops.

The Djibouti president said it is hard to change the habit of our people, but we must make every attempt not to rely on imported foodstuffs in all the IGADD countries. We have equal problems, although some of us have problems peculiar to ourselves, as has been highlighted by the IGADD experts and ministers in their recent meeting preceding this summit.

The president called for social change among our people. We must make every attempt to make our people understand what is going on throughout the world, and also make them mature politically. The Djibouti president,

Al-Haji Hassan Gouled Aptidon, concluding his speech said, we ought to make life comfortable for future generations in our countries.

Addressing the summit, General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, the Sudanese leader, said there was a need for this summit to solve some of the existing problems and make a tangible effort to promote the functions of the secretariat of the organization.

The IGADD summit later endorsed the agenda of the third session, and Ethiopia was appointed to chair this IGADD session.

Hassan, Al-Bashir Confer

*EA1701093690 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 16 Jan 90*

[Text] In Djibouti today Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, the Revolution Command Council [RCC] chairman and President Hassan Gouled Aptidon, chairman of the current session of the meetings of the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, IGADD, reviewed the means which can ensure the development and strengthening of the authority, as well as the means to overcome the obstacles hampering the authority's assumption of its role in the region.

Lt Gen 'Umar told SUNA that the talks dealt with the problems which confront the states in the region, preventing them from proceeding with work in the areas of development and reconstruction. His excellency added that the talks also touched on the security of the Red Sea. Agreement was reached to follow up the matter and study all new developments. The talks also dealt with the measures concerning the reunification of the two parts of Yemen. The two presidents expressed their welcome for this step.

Lt Gen 'Umar announced that he and President Hassan had agreed to form a joint ministerial committee for the furtherance of bilateral relations for the benefit of the two peoples.

Meanwhile, the RCC chairman and his delegation toured Djibouti port this morning, and he familiarized himself with the progress of work at the port.

Moi, Al-Bashir Meet

*EA1701103090 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 16 Jan 90*

[Excerpt] President Moi today held discussions with President 'Umar al-Bashir of the Sudan who paid him a courtesy call at his hotel in Djibouti. During the talks, which centered on the problems facing the Sudan, President Moi said it was his view that Africa needed peace more than anything else, since it was the key to development and the general well-being of the people of the continent. He said that it was only leaders and the people of the Sudan who knew the root causes and the depth of

the problems which gave rise to the conflicts in their country. The president further said that it was the Sudanese people who could effectively tackle their internal problems, adding that life was precious and should not continue to be lost every day.

The president noted that he abhorred tribalism and discrimination based on color. Noting that he stood for continental unity, President Moi said that people should not quarrel just because they were of different ethnic backgrounds, adding that the diversity in ethnic backgrounds should be seen as an advantage in Africa and should not be allowed to be a reason for conflict. He said

a solution to Africa's problems would not come from outside Africa, but from within the continent.

The president said he was happy that the Khartoum government was keen on negotiating for peace and he wished them well.

General al-Bashir said that the Sudan wished to benefit from President Moi's wisdom in the search for peace. Describing President Moi as a wise man of Africa, Gen al-Bashir invited him to visit the Sudan at his own convenience. He pointed out that the Sudan was losing time and energy, adding that it yearned for a negotiated settlement to solve its crisis. [passage omitted]

Djibouti**Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi Arrives**

EA1601183290 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Excerpt] H.E. President Daniel arap Moi arrived in Djibouti this morning shortly before noon to a red carpet welcome by his host, President Al-Haji Hassan Gouled Aptidon. On arrival, President Moi inspected a colorful guard of honor mounted by the Djibouti Armed Forces after which he was entertained by teams of traditional dancers. [passage omitted]

Sudan Ready To Continue Operation Lifeline

EA1601221990 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1505 GMT
16 Jan 90

[Text] Djibouti, 16 Jan (SUNA) Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, the National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] chairman, has said that the resumption of Operation Lifeline in its second phase will depend on the arrangements being made now to ensure its continuity.

His excellency, who was speaking in two press interviews with two correspondents of LE MONDE and AFP, said that consultations on the matter were going on between government officials and the UN operations coordinator in Khartoum to draw up the arrangements. He confirmed Sudan's full readiness to continue Operation Lifeline.

Lt Gen 'Umar denied the bombing of the towns of (?Mayom) and Yirol, and said that our aircraft had no involvement in the Yirol incident, and it has not been confirmed [word indistinct] why it was subjected to bombing.

During the news conference, his excellency touched on the issue of peace, as well as the peace talks that had taken place. He said: We expect that the next round of talks will take place in Cairo under the chairmanship of President Husni Mubarak.

Lt Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, the NSCC chairman, said in the press interviews that the Islamic Shari'ah laws were still frozen, and that the solution for the problem had already been proposed by the national dialogue conference. He said: We are now awaiting an agreement for a comprehensive solution and not just a partial solution [words indistinct].

It is worth mentioning that Lt Gen 'Umar is in Djibouti attending the Inter-Governmental Authority on Drought and Development Summit.

Ethiopia**Foreign Minister Meets Diplomats on Rebel Support**

AB1601135690 Paris AFP in English 0005 GMT
16 Jan 90

[Text] Addis Ababa Jan 15 (AFP)—Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tesfaye Dinka on Monday accused unnamed powers of lending support to rebel groups threatening Ethiopia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The minister levelled the charges in separate meetings with ambassadors from various countries, a Foreign Ministry statement said.

Mentioned as apparent recipients of foreign support were the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF).

There was no reference to foreign involvement in any specific acts of destabilization, though Mr. Tesfaye's meeting with the diplomats and the tenor of the charge suggest the government views the matter very seriously.

It was the first time the government has complained of such support for the OLF, although it has on frequent previous occasions complained of external support for the other two movements.

In the communique, Mr. Tesfaye accused the EPLF of "terrorist" acts against commercial shipping in the Red Sea, a reference to its attacks on foreign freighters over the past 10 days. A Polish freighter, the "Boleslaw Krzywousty," was hit and burnt near the Red Sea coast early this month and its crew of 30 held prisoner by the rebels after fleeing to land. Another Polish ship sent to the rescue was similarly shot at but escaped.

Last week, a Yugoslav freighter was briefly held by the EPLF but released unharmed.

The Foreign Ministry statement said the minister underlined to the diplomats the seriousness of "these acts of banditry and the gravity of its implications and consequences".

He repeated earlier assertions that the Ethiopian authorities would take the "appropriate steps" on their side, apparently by mounting a search and rescue operation for the "Boleslaw Krzywousty" and its crew.

However, similar action was necessary from other coastal states on the Red Sea to ensure that it remained "a sea of peace and tranquility", the minister said.

The other littoral states are Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, North and South Yemen and Djibouti.

Since a failed coup attempt in Ethiopia in May last year, there had been a de facto ceasefire in Eritrea, and the two

sides had begun preliminary peace talks to end the 28-year rebellion in the province.

But the TPLF has meanwhile spearheaded incursions deep into the northern provinces of Gonder, Welo and Shewa, with fighting still raging in many areas, although the government says it now has security firmly in hand.

Last week, after a long silence, the Oromo Liberation Front claimed a string of successes in western Ethiopia, including the capture of Asosa, a town in Welega Province, less than 30 kms (20 miles) from the Sudanese border.

The OLF reportedly also seized six Cuban medical personnel in the operation in an apparent bid to attract international publicity for itself.

During his meeting with the ambassadors, Mr. Tesfaye briefed them about progress in the peace efforts regarding the EPLF and TPLF, according to the statement.

He further discussed the situation in the drought-prone north, and pledged the government's commitment to seeing relief aid reach all those at risk. Donors have expressed fears food could be denied to those in the northern war zones.

Government Cites 'Strong Action' Against Enemy

EA1701200090 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] The damage and wrongs being perpetrated by the tribalist Weyane [Tigray People's Liberation Front, TPLF] group, acting as an instrument for our enemies, who continuously conspire to disintegrate the unity of our motherland and hamper peaceful development efforts and thereby expose the people to suffering, are well known to everyone.

The entire Ethiopian people, angered by the consequences of the Weyane war—famine, suffering, and death—are being mobilized to thwart the attacks aimed at the unity of their country and their peaceful lives.

Our Revolutionary Army and our people's militia, who are in the forefront of the struggle in the anti-Weyane war, are showing their bravery in practice at the war fronts in a bid to carry out the noble responsibilities bestowed on them by the Ethiopian people. Hence the arrogant Weyanes who are massacring innocent lives and destroying their property are being paid their dues.

In the past few days, our heroic 3d Revolutionary Army was mobilized for a great mission of doom, and through its strong action against the enemy force in Hayk and Kuta Ber fronts in Southern Welo Administrative area, it has dealt a severe loss and managed to destroy most of the enemy force, and it is in hot pursuit of the remaining force.

The struggle in which our Revolutionary Army is always ready to make any sacrifice for the noble popular objective, to secure the peaceful lives of the people, continues to destroy the enemy so completely that it cannot be active again.

People of the area are making their contribution to this struggle for the unity and peace of the motherland.

It is only when groups that are out to intensify war are completely destroyed that it is possible to work and live peacefully and to achieve a better life individually and communally.

Therefore, the people in areas where the anti-Weyane struggle is being carried out should stand alongside our revolutionary Army and our people's militia and chase the enemy in hot pursuit and struggle stronger, more than ever before for their existence, their country, and the dignity of their flag.

Ethiopia first!

EPRDF Rebels Claim Kuta Ber 'Recaptured'

EA1801083490 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad
Masses of Ethiopia in Amharic 0400 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] The heroic forces of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] have been launching an offensive against the enemy forces around Hayk and Kuta Ber it will be recalled. This offensive continued from 6th to 9th Tir [14 to 17 January]. The aim of the attack was to carry out a semi-operation [last word in English] against forces deployed at Kuta Ber and Hayk, and to deal a severe blow to enemy reinforcements.

Accordingly, our heroic forces, in an offensive they carried out on 6th Tir [14 January], inflicted heavy damage and dispersed the enemy's 1st Army Division located at Hayk, and made it flee from Hayk town and its surroundings. The enemy forces which were dispersed on that day fled to Kembolcha. In an offensive launched on the same day on the 17th Army Division in Kuta Ber, many of the enemy forces were dispersed, and areas held by the Army were recaptured. The Army division suffered heavy human and material losses.

After scoring these victories on the 1st day, our heroic forces then prepared to destroy reinforcements which might come to rescue the enemy, and prepared to inflict further human and material blows on them.

On the 2d day the enemy gathered its dispersed soldiers, reinforced them and moved to launch a counteroffensive. However, the heroic EPRDF forces inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in the battle on the two fronts. They inflicted heavy damage on some brigades of the 3d Army Division, the 6th Mechanized Brigade and some remnants of the 1st Army Division.

In a counteroffensive our forces launched the same evening they dispersed the same enemy forces, who fled

under great pressure. On the Kuta Ber front, our heroic forces overpowered the reinforcement airborne and commando brigades as well as the remnants of the 17th Division, and inflicted additional heavy human and material losses. In the same battle, our forces gained the ground taken by the enemy and waited in readiness to repulse the remaining forces the next day.

On the 3d day the enemy mobilized additional forces to reinforce the two fronts. However, our heroic forces destroyed the enemy forces deployed at Kuta Ber and recaptured the town. Similarly, on the Hayk front, our forces inflicted heavy damage on the enemy reinforcements.

On the 3d day of the battle on the Kuta Ber front more than 1500 enemy soldiers were killed and injured. These losses were inflicted only on some of the enemy forces deployed at Kuta Ber, and they do not include all the forces in the area. On the same day three enemy tanks were destroyed.

On the 4th day, that is on 9th Tir [17 January] the fighting in Kuta Ber continued and more human and material losses were inflicted on the enemy. In the 4-day battle, the EPRDF forces incapacitated the 17th and 1st Army Divisions, as well as inflicting heavy damage on the reinforcements from the 3d, 102d, 26th Brigades and the Commando Brigades. The recent offensive of our heroic forces has achieved its goal. We have dealt a severe blow to the enemy forces and recaptured our free land. We will give the general details of these battles in our later broadcast.

Kenya

Official Denies BBC Reports on Fleeing Somalis

EA1701133490 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
17 Jan 90 p 5

[Article by NATION reporter: "Screening: Haji Criticizes BBC"]

[Text] The Rift Valley provincial commissioner [PC], Mr Yusuf Haji, described as utter rubbish and nonsense broadcasts by the British Broadcasting Corporation that 150 Kenyan Somali nationals had sought refuge in Uganda.

Mr Haji said this was rubbish. He said all people who may have fled are alien Somalis who had illegally taken refuge in Kenya.

He wondered why anybody would flee his country, when aliens were seeking to be allowed to stay in.

The PC, who is the national co-ordinator of the Somali screening exercise, said this when he received documents from seven Somali nationals who had acquired them illegally at his Nyayo house office.

Mr Haji said there was not a single Kenyan Somali seeking to be a refugee anywhere outside the country. He

wondered why BBC did not talk to the foreigners who have been living in the country illegally and who were freely surrendering their illegally acquired documents to the government.

The PC said there was no need for anyone to run since the exercise was still going on, and all one need to do was to prove he was a Kenyan. He said the exercise will continue for another two months.

The seven requested the government to allow them to stay in the country. They said they have many businesses in the country which said they are married here. [sentence as published]

Mr Haji said he would take their request to the government.

One of those who gave their illegal documents, Mr Ali Jima Ali, 45, said he has 11 children. He said he was born at Hardera in Somalia before crossing into Kenya. He lived at Eastleigh, Nairobi.

His illegally acquired identity card show he was born at Mandera, while his wife was born at Wajir.

Somalia

Somali National Movement Reports Victories

EA1701201290 (Clandestine) Radio of the Somali
National Movement in Somali 1500 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] A report received by the Somali National Movement [SNM] radio from the central high command of the liberation forces of the SNM says that fierce fighting took place recently in the central regions of the country.

The fighting, launched by the justice-seeking SNM fighters against the loyalist troops on an enemy base along the tarmac road linking Mogadishu and Gaalkacyo ended with a great setback for the Afweyneh [big mouth—derogatory term for President Siad Barre] forces.

The enemy suffered 85 officers and men killed and many others wounded. The enemy also lost three armored personnel carrier [APC] transport vehicles, which were burned out.

The SNM suffered one martyr and nine others with slight injuries.

The gallant SNM fighters also captured a truck loaded with rations, medicine, and ammunition. All the soldiers on board the vehicle were killed.

In another attack, the SNM central high command has confirmed the death of 10 enemy soldiers of the moribund Mogadishu regime stationed at Bandiiradley with two other soldiers wounded. The report adds that one APC vehicle belonging to the enemy was burned out.

Another attack by the intrepid fighters of the SNM on the enemy base at Hobyo town on 13 January 1990,

ended with a crushing defeat for soldiers loyal to the Mogadishu regime. The enemy lost many soldiers killed and a very large quantity of military hardware, rations, and medicine has been burned. The SNM fighters suffered no casualties.

Uganda

Renewed Rebel Activity Reported in West District

*AB1601215690 London BBC World Service in English
1615 GMT 16 Jan 90*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There has been renewed rebel activity in Uganda's Western Kasere District near the Zaire border. The

(Ruenzururu) rebels are led by a former member of the Obote government. From Kampala, Festa Ebongu telephoned this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] The rebels were commanded by (Omar Baziro), a minister of land in Milton Obote's government in the early 1980's. The rebel group lived on Mount Ruwenzori in Western Uganda. At [words indistinct] the attack on the villages while the rebels were on their way to the mountain areas, they burned buildings identified as offices of the Resistance Committee. On the same day as the attack, anonymous letters were found at various points in the same area. They called upon the Resistance Committee officials to disassociate themselves from government activities. In an apparent reference to a former kingdom dissolved by Obote, the letters carried a stamp reading (Ruwenzururu) Kingdom Government. [end recording]

UDF To Operate 'Openly' in 'Challenge' to State*MB1701150790 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1200 GMT 17 Jan 90*

[Text] The United Democratic Front [UDF] says it is going to operate openly in a challenge to the government.

For 2 years the UDF has been forbidden to operate. Leaders of the movement have told a news conference they will reopen offices across the country and they will begin planning a national conference in April.

Spokesman Murphy Morobe says in what the UDF sees as a challenging period ahead of them, they have decided to claim their fight to engage in open opposition activities. Morobe added a delegation of 22 leaders is to meet soon with jailed ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela.

Minister Vlok Comments*MB1701183790 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1821 GMT 17 Jan 90*

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 17, SAPA—The United Democratic Front (UDF) was not a banned organisation, although it was necessary in February 1988 to restrict certain of the organisation's activities and operations, the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said on Wednesday [17 January] night.

Reacting to a decision by the UDF to "unban" itself on Wednesday, he said in a statement from Pretoria the actions taken in February 1988 against the UDF were necessary in order to ensure the safety of the public, or the maintenance of public order, or the end of the emergency situation.

"The regulations at the same time made allowance for the UDF to apply to the minister of law and order to carry on with its activities and operations."

He said should the UDF now be of the opinion that its activities and operations no longer endangered the safety of the public, or the maintenance of public order, or the ending of the emergency situation, it was free to apply to the minister (of law and order) for the continuation of its activities and operations.

"I therefore invite the UDF to let me have the necessary representations. However, should the UDF violate (oortree) the restrictions placed on it without permission, it could be a transgression of the emergency regulations and the alleged infringements will be investigated in the normal course and handed to an attorney-general for a decision."

'Softening' of Role of ANC's Armed Wing Likely*MB1801124490 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 18 Jan 90 p 3*

[By Charlene Smith]

[Text] Lusaka—ANC [African National Congress] leader Walter Sisulu made a speech to the ANC-in-exile here yesterday that political observers are widely interpreting as a prelude to discussions about a softening of the role of the ANC's armed wing. Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation] (MK).

Sisulu said: "When Umkhonto we Sizwe was formed it was because there was no alternative at that stage. There was no more effective method of meeting the brutality of apartheid. It was necessary to defend our people."

Sisulu said the decade would not end "without us winning our freedom" and called for active self-criticism in the organisation. He referred to the importance of the international community's support in reaching the present situation where negotiations were actively being discussed.

He called on "you here, MK, the people, the international community to intensify the struggle at home even if there appears to be a lessening of tension at home. If we do not the regime will dominate."

The ANC had learnt from the lessons of Eastern Europe but "those who are thinking there is an end to socialism are making a big mistake," Sisulu said.

State To Review Restrictions on Banned Groups*MB1801110590 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1025 GMT 18 Jan 90*

[Text] Cape Town Jan 18 SAPA—The South African [SA] Government is to review the position of restricted and banned organisations, Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee announced on Thursday [18 January] in a press release from Cape Town, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports.

Reacting to the United Democratic Front national executive's announcement on Wednesday that it would resume full-scale, overt operations to challenge the government, Mr Coetsee said the position of restricted organisations was reviewed from time to time.

He added that such an exercise was in the pipe-line.

Asked if the African National Congress and the SA Communist Party were included in the review, Mr Coetsee said a comprehensive approach was being adopted.

'Moderate' Black Leaders Meet Education Minister*MB1701173290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1534 GMT 17 Jan 90*

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 17, SAPA—Five executive committee members of an organisation of "moderate" black leaders, National Forum, met the minister of constitutional development and of national education, Dr Gerrit

Viljoen, in Pretoria on Wednesday [17 January], SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports.

The National Forum was established under the chairmanship of Mr Philip Nhlapo in May last year as a forum for black leaders to negotiate with the government on a national level.

Dr Viljoen said in a statement released after the meeting he welcomed the opportunity to meet representatives of a moderate black organisation that represented a wide spectrum of people.

He said it was worth the government's while to negotiate with these people as representative leaders.

Dr Viljoen emphasised government was not speaking only to one party, but to a variety of representative organisations.

It was decided at Wednesday's meeting the minister would meet the full executive committee of the National Forum "soon," according to SABC.

The other members of the executive committee who attended the meeting were the general secretary, David Mobida, the national organiser, Freddy Mohajane, John Mavuso and Edwan Motebang.

SATS, SARHWU To Employ Strike Mediator

*MB1801121590 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1202 GMT 18 Jan 90*

[By Craig Doonan]

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 18 SAPA—The SA [South African] Transport Services [SATS] and the SA Railway and Harbour Workers union (SARHWU) are to call in a mediator in an attempt to resolve the 11-week-old strike.

SATS spokesman Mr Leon Els told SAPA both parties had agreed to this move following talks on Thursday [18 January] morning.

"SATS proposed mediation in an attempt to completely settle the dispute," Mr Els said.

He said SARHWU had accepted the proposals and mediation would begin as soon as possible.

"A mediator must facilitate the two parties to put an end to the dispute and both parties have agreed to that," Mr Els said.

"Both parties agreed it should be done as soon as possible. It's just a question of getting the logistics off the ground now," he added.

Mr Els said SATS proposed mediation for the first time at Thursday's 1-1/2 hour meeting. He was unable to give details as to what the issues were to be mediated due to an agreement not to disclose contents of the talks with SARHWU.

British Railway Union Delegate Faces Deportation

*MB1801114290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1138 GMT 18 Jan 90*

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 18 SAPA—A British National Union of Railways delegate who arrived at Jan Smuts Airport in Johannesburg on Thursday [18 January] morning has allegedly been prevented from leaving the airport's customs department and faces possible deportation.

COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] press officer, Mr Neil Coleman, told SAPA Mr Jeff Revell and a colleague, Mr Allan Pottage, had arrived in South Africa to show solidarity with the SA Railway and Harbours Workers' Union (SARHWU) strike.

Customs officials at the airport, however, have refused to let Mr Revell pass through and are allegedly holding him in transit, according to Mr Coleman.

Mr Revell visited South Africa during the 1987 SA Transport Services strike and according to Mr Coleman he has since been placed on a "security forces list".

Mr Pottage was apparently allowed to enter the country.

Custom officials are saying Mr Revell requires a visa to enter the country, "which is not the normal procedure when travelling from Britain to South Africa", Mr Coleman said.

"He was not previously told he needed a visa and they have threatened to put him on a flight back to Britain tonight (Thursday)."

Mr Coleman said the British consulate had been contacted and had been in touch with the Department of Home Affairs in South Africa.

"COSATU is very concerned about the situation because the railway strike is at a very delicate stage.

"The perception of rail workers and COSATU is that all the instruments at the state's disposal are being used to crush the strike, and today's action is another attempt to deprive the strikers of support."

Mr Coleman added that international trade unions and foreign governments would be contacted to participate in protests of Thursday's incident.

De Klerk Meets With Ciskeian President

*MB1801130590 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 18 Jan 90*

[Text] The state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, and the president of Ciskei, Dr Lennox Sebe, have completed discussions at the government buildings at the Ciskei capital, Bisho.

Mr de Klerk was accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha; the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Leon Wessels; and other senior officials.

The state president and his delegation arrived at the Bisho International Airport at 1000 and were met by Dr Sebe. The road from the airport was lined with school-children waving Ciskeian and South African flags. On his arrival at the government buildings Mr de Klerk inspected a guard of honor. The guests and about 500 spectators were then entertained by a choir and tribal dancers. Afterwards talks were held on constitutional matters.

18 Jan Press Review on Current Problems, Issues

MB1801115390

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Government Must Abolish 'Theoretical' Bans—Granting passports to the recently released African National Congress (ANC) leaders is a "remarkable development, illustrating the new flexibility that President de Klerk has brought to his government and his party," says a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 18 January. "The ANC continued to exist in South Africa even though the law abolished it and then proceeded to demand that everyone pretend it did not exist. As had to happen sooner or later, the organisation began to emerge from the shadows." The government itself "acknowledges a role for the ANC when it announces conditions for negotiating with it." THE STAR also notes this week the United Democratic Front declared itself unbanned and flags of the ANC and other banned organizations have "been hoisted high at marches and rallies. This indicates clearly enough that Pretoria is unwilling, or unable, to enforce its more dubious laws." Therefore, the "theoretical bans must go—and with them, the restrictive, undemocratic laws."

BUSINESS DAY

Editorial Commends Stals' Economic Control—"The December trade figures, indicating a surplus for last year of about R13bn [13 billion rand], have confirmed the optimistic assessment of the foreign debt problem given to the Afrikaanse Sakekamer [Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce] on Tuesday by Reserve Bank Governor Chris Stals," declares Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 18 January in a page 8 editorial. "This country's true strength is beginning to show." Now the country needs to "overcome the perception abroad (and among many people at home) that the country is so weakened economically as to be vulnerable to financial and trade sanctions." It is also "hard to escape the conclusion that the banks expect the Reserve Bank once again to lose its nerve, under pressure from the government, and to revert to the easier money approach which has led the country into trouble time after time." Therefore, "if Stals does not bring inflation under control this time, the country will go into constitutional negotiations in conditions of substantial economic turmoil. For that reason, if for no other, Stals deserves to be commended for his steadfastness since he came to office."

SOWETAN

UDF Freedom 'Urgent'—Referring to the United Democratic Front's (UDF) decision to "unban" itself Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 18 January states in its page 6 editorial: "Denying it the opportunity to play that role will be doing this country a disservice. To use the words of the UDF's acting publicity secretary, Mr Murphy Morobe: 'In what we see as a challenging period ahead of us we have decided to claim our rights, to engage in open opposition activity'." SOWETAN declares: "There is no stage in the history of the struggle for freedom and democracy in South Africa when the need for freedom of expression has been more urgent than it is today."

Namibia

Constituent Assembly Committee Resumes 17 Jan

MB1801074190 Windhoek Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 1900 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] The Constituent Assembly's standing committee for standing order and internal arrangements resumed its duties today.

Three South African legal experts, Professor Marinus Wiechers, Lawyer Arthur Chaskalson, and Prof Gerhard Erasmus, supported the committee today in their discussion of the draft constitution for an independent Namibia. They also briefed the committee on a related document they have prepared.

There are indications that the committee still has work to finalize the draft constitution, which could result in it not being presented to the Constituent Assembly on Friday [19 January].

The drafting of a model constitution is regarded by all members of the committee as a serious matter, and the general feeling is that they are not prepared to work hastily and present an incomplete constitution to the inhabitants of Namibia.

The members of the committee agree that the nation should become independent as soon as possible and that the constitution should not be ignored because of this.

Constituent Assembly Postpones Sitting to 25 Jan

MB1801102190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1000 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Windhoek Jan 18 SAPA—The Namibian Constituent Assembly [CA] has once again postponed its next sitting, at which it is to receive the draft constitution being prepared by a multi-party Standing Committee assisted by three prominent South African Lawyers.

The session scheduled for Friday [19 January] was postponed until 2.15pm on Thursday January 25, the secretary of the assembly, Mr Hennie van Rensburg, said in a news release issued in Windhoek on Thursday.

"The reason for this further postponement is due to the fact that the Standing Committee, which had already made remarkable progress on the drafting of the constitution, wants to be able to table a thoroughly drawn-up draft constitution with the intention to limit unnecessary discussions in the assembly in order not to delay the adoption of the constitution," Mr van Rensburg said.

"The draft constitution will be tabled in the assembly on Thursday 25 January 1990. To enable members to study the draft, discussions thereon will commence on Monday 29 January 1990," he concluded.

The CA, elected in UN-supervised elections last November and charged with the task of writing an independence constitution for Africa's last colony, was

originally scheduled to receive the draft constitution from the Standing Committee on January 12, but the Standing Committee was unable to finish its work by that date.

The committee has been meeting regularly and after hours this week to continue their work with the help of legal advisors Mr Arthur Chaskalson SC [Senior Counsel], Prof Marinus Wiechers and Prof Gerhard Erasmus.

Zambia

ANC's Sisulu Discusses 'Need' for Armed Struggle

MB1701145590 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] The recently released ANC [African National Congress] leader, Mr Walter Sisulu, says there is a need for the military wing of the ANC, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], to continue and to intensify the armed struggle in South Africa. He also says that those who view events in Eastern Europe as being the end of socialism are making a big mistake.

According to the Zambia DAILY MAIL, Mr Sisulu was addressing a meeting of the internal and external wings of the ANC in Lusaka, Zambia. He said that the armed struggle had been used to wrest the initiative for what he called dialogue leading to the creation of a nonracial, united, and democratic South Africa. He urged ANC members to maintain the highest level of discipline.

Urges Mandela's Immediate Release

MB1701191890 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Visiting veteran nationalist leader Walter Sisulu has called for the immediate release of jailed ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela and stop [as heard] the ongoing speculation on Comrade Mandela's release.

Speaking at the commemoration of the Martin Luther King Day at the American Center in Lusaka this evening, Comrade Sisulu called on South African President F.W. de Klerk to release Comrade Mandela now and not next week or next month. He added that the ANC should be unbanned and the state of emergency lifted to pave way for transformation of South Africa into a nonracial society. Comrade Sisulu stressed that the South African people's determination and momentum that has been gained toward dismantling apartheid should be maintained and accelerated.

Advocates Possible Talks With State

MB1701212590 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Mr Walter Sisulu has addressed members of the ANC [African National Congress] in Lusaka about possible talks with the South African Government.

He said ANC members in exile should be prepared to enter into negotiations with Pretoria to end apartheid. The ANC leader praised the struggle waged by the organization through its military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation].

Zimbabwe**House of Assembly Extends State of Emergency**

MB1701165190 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1645 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Harare, Jan 17, SAPA—The House of Assembly on Wednesday [17 January] voted 73 to three to extend the state of emergency for a further six months. It was due to expire at midnight on January 25.

Calling for its extension, Home Affairs Minister Moven Mahachi said "certain political parties" were recruiting young Zimbabweans to go for "banditry training" outside the country, with the intention of infiltrating them back into the country to commit atrocities.

"...There have been arrests of fellow Zimbabweans involved in recruiting young Zimbabweans to undergo banditry training outside the country for certain political parties, with the intention of infiltrating the trained bandits back to Zimbabwe to commit acts of banditry and terrorism.

"Honourable members are advised to take note of the court proceedings within the immediate future," he said.

He did not name the parties allegedly involved in recruiting potential bandits or the party linked to those he said had been arrested.

Contributing to debate on the motion, Alexio Mudzingwa (Chegutu East) and Sydney Malunga (Mpopoma) suggested the state of emergency be confined to insecure parts of the country and leave out peaceful areas.

"There's no reason why we should have a blanket state of emergency throughout the country. Can't the state of emergency be confined to the eastern border? The whole country does not need a state of emergency," said Mr Malunga, who later voted against an extension.

He said the flexibility provided for under the state of emergency was open to abuse. There was enough legislation to take care of the security situation in the country, he maintained.

Most democratic countries condemned the state of emergency in South Africa, not only because it was being used to commit atrocities against the majority of its people, but because it was being abused, he said.

"Can we therefore have the audacity to condemn South Africa, if we ourselves are guilty of the same?" he asked.

He said the state of emergency was "nearly abused" in the case of a strike by National Railways of Zimbabwe artisans and was used against demonstrations by University of Zimbabwe students.

Mr Mudzingwa suggested negotiations between the conflicting parties in Mozambique could help bring an end to the war there, in the same way talks brought an end to the "dissident menace" in Zimbabwe.

He said the situation had worsened despite the state of emergency and argued present legislation was adequate to contain the situation.

Information Minister Views Changes in East Europe

MB1701152690 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1417 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Harare Jan 17 SAPA—Zimbabwe notes with interest the transformation taking place in Eastern Europe and hopes to draw lessons from it which will help meet local challenges and changes, Information Minister Witness Mangwende said on Wednesday [17 January].

ZIANA national news agency reports Mr Mangwende told outgoing Bulgarian Ambassador Alexander Atanasov that events in Eastern Europe were useful to Zimbabwe.

"We are particularly keen to see how your country strengthens socialism, democracy and the economy," he said, at a farewell luncheon in honour of the ambassador in Harare.

Mr Atanasov warned his host about the danger of rhetoric about socialism, stressing that the beneficiaries of the system were the ones who must praise it first.

"Let those who benefit from socialism say so, rather than those who make the slogans. When the shops are empty, when people are not allowed to say what they want, what kind of socialism is that," he asked.

On the situation in southern Africa, Mr Mangwende said as long as apartheid continued to exist in South Africa, the political and economic problems in the region would deteriorate.

"Zimbabwe looks forward to the continued support by Bulgaria and other Eastern European countries in the fight to defeat apartheid," he said.

Benin

Private Bank Begins Operations in Cotonou

AB1701152090 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] The first bank with Beninese majority shares opened its doors this morning to the public to Cotonou. The Bank of Africa [BOA], Benin, has now become a reality. It is housed in the former offices of the Foreign Trade Department, near the Ministry of Trade and Crafts. The public thronged to the premises this morning to open accounts.

And so the BOA, Benin, became operational this morning and dozens of customers went to open their accounts—minimum deposit is 50,000 CFA [African Financial Community] francs for private customers, 500,000 for corporations. The sitting up of the first Beninese private bank is the outcome of the liberalization of the banking sector by the state. BOA, Benin, which was legally formed on 29 June 1989, was approved on 13 October last year. It has capital of 1 billion CFA francs. More than 230 Beninese shareholders own more than half of the bank's capital, and it has about 30 employees who are at the disposal of the customers. [passage omitted]

Ghana

120 Citizens Said Deported From Burkina Faso

AB1701184090 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Reports from Bongatanga say about 120 Ghanaians resident in Burkina Faso have been rounded up and deported to Ghana by the Burkinabe authorities without any official explanation. The Ghanaians were mostly traders, artisans, and cobblers. They were sent to the Burkinabe border town of (Yelwongo), from where they crossed into Ghana at the weekend. Eight of the deportees, who had no money on them, were assisted by the Upper East regional branch of the GPRTU [Ghana Private Road Transport Union] to get to Kumasi. An official of the GPRTU told newsmen that the union spent about 14,000 cedis in feeding and transporting the deportees.

Ivory Coast

Liberian Radio Claims French Troops Deployed

AB1701173790 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Latest reports say authorities in the Ivory Coast are said to be rounding up rebels in the Ivorian border towns, along with their local sympathizers. Diplomatic sources in Abidjan have told newsmen that some 30 persons suspected of being members of the rebel movement, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, have been

arrested in Danane and were being interrogated in Abidjan. Meanwhile, the Ivorian authorities are reported to have tightened their security along the border with Liberia by deploying French troops.

Cabinet Cites 'Genocide' on Liberian Border

AB1701210790 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Excerpts] A Cabinet meeting was held this morning at the Presidential Palace. We read to you the statement sent to us by the minister of communication, Mr Auguste Miremont:

At its session of today, Wednesday, 17 January 1990, from 1000 to 1230 at the Presidential Palace, the Council of Ministers listened to the head of state with attention and interest. President Felix Houphouët-Boigny discussed the issue of the serious and grave difficulties facing the country; the sacrifices that must be made; and the measures that have been taken and those that need to be taken, such as the reduction in the number of civil servants, the need to lower salaries of staff of mixed economy and state enterprises to the same level as those of civil servants, and the general measures being taken to control the national economy.

On the crucial problem of the Liberian refugees, who are the victims of genocide along the Liberian-Ivorian border, the government, in a separate statement, denounced this genocide, which has caused a dramatic exodus of nearly 30,000 children, women, and elderly. [passage omitted]

The next working session of the Council of Ministers will be held on Wednesday, 24 January 1990. Also, in its 11 January 1990 statement, the Political Bureau mentioned serious incidents that are taking place in Liberia along the Ivorian-Liberian border. The Political Bureau categorically rejected the allegations against Ivory Coast, which was not implicated in any way in those events that concern only Liberians and differences among ethnic groups.

Thousands of Liberian nationals, fleeing that area, have continued to flood into Ivory Coast, most of them are children, women, and old people, some of whom are seriously injured and have been taken to hospitals in that region. There were 22,728 refugees on 13 January 1990, but the number is estimated now to have risen to more than 30,000.

Ivory Coast hopes that the humanitarian organizations, some of which are represented in our country, will be able to visit the area to suggest a solution in order to put an end to these killings and the exodus of the people into Ivorian territory. Faithful to its policy of peace and good-neighborliness, and its traditional policy of brotherly hospitality, Ivory Coast has been welcoming these refugees who have been arriving without any property. They are being given care and assistance.

But in the face of their increasing number, the care and assistance given to them at this time of economic crisis is insufficient compared to the needs of these refugees. The Government of Ivory Coast is making it a point to thank those organizations that have so far assisted them, in particular the Medecins Sans Frontieres organization. The government calls for international assistance in order to strengthen its aid to these refugees who have continued to pour into the country.

WHO Sends Emergency Aid to Liberian Refugees

*AB1601220790 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 16 Jan 90*

[From the "African News" program]

[Text] The World Health Organization is to send emergency aid to the Ivory Coast to help care for refugees fleeing violence in Liberia's Nimba County. The WHO representative in Abidjan told the BBC that a consignment of medicines was expected to arrive shortly. The refugees began arriving in the Ivory Coast several weeks ago following attacks by armed rebels on villages near the border. The BBC West Africa correspondent says the attacks are continuing and the Liberian army is conducting what amounts to a scorched-earth policy to stop the rebellion. Official figures say more than 22,000 refugees have sought shelter in the Ivory Coast, while between 5,000 and 10,000 have fled north into Guinea.

Liberia

Vice President Addresses National Legislature

*AB1701191390 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0709 GMT 16 Jan 90*

[Excerpts] Vice President Dr Harry Moniba has said: To destabilize the Liberian Government will not only bring and put sufferings to President Doe, he, Moniba, the speaker and others in government, but all citizens of the country. [sentence as heard] He therefore urged Liberians to quit conniving with outsiders whose sole purpose is to destroy this country, saying: If you do not expose them, you are equally guilty of their plans.

Addressing the 51st opening session of the national legislature yesterday, Dr Moniba said: We have no choice but to work together for the development of the nation. According to the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, he said the occurrence of another revolution in Liberia will only mean that we are finished and will also mean the division of the nation. Vice President Moniba said the Liberian people were now fed up with coup plots, and that whosoever engaged in such activities was not ready to resolve their differences through dialogue. What the Liberian people really wanted now, he said, was the right to move about and go to bed freely knowing that their lives and properties were safe.

Dr Moniba then cautioned the legislators to keep in mind that Liberia is the first and only political party

which all Liberians must work for, and which all their deliberations must be geared toward to ensure the unity and peaceful existence of all Liberians. [sentence as heard] He pointed out that the only hope Liberians had was the pursuit of life and universal human rights provided by the multiparty democratic system, which he described as a good beginning and one that allows for the free exchange of ideas and not opposing groups in the interest of all. [passage omitted]

For his part, House Speaker Samuel Hill thanked President Doe and the Joint Security for the appropriate action taken against the dissidents who entered Liberia in December last year. He further said the joint opening session of the Senate and the House of Representative for the first time was indicative of both bodies' readiness to further work together for the good of the Liberian nation.

Church Leaders Meet Doe, Condemn Dissident Acts

*AB1701124590 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 16 Jan 90*

[Text] The Liberia Council of Churches has condemned the December 24 incursion of Liberia by Charles Taylor as reported in an Executive Mansion press release issued today. The executive committee of the council, headed by its president, the Reverend (Levin Morton) of the Liberia Baptist Convention made the condemnation when they met with President Samuel Kanyon Doe at the Executive Mansion. According to the release, the more than 1 hour meeting was described as friendly, frank, and relaxing by the executive committee of the LCC, which is composed of the heads of various Christian churches in the country.

According to the release, (Rev Morton), who spoke on behalf of the committee, said although the council at a later date will issue a prepared statement on the current situation in the country, they consider it their responsibility as heads of the Christian churches in the country to condemn the acts of violence which, according to him, does not resolve justice.

(Rev Morton) also used the occasion to reassure President Doe of the organization's support, saying the Liberia Council of Churches has nothing against the president or his administration and pledged to continue their social, religious, educational, and agricultural programs being undertaken by the various churches. The release said (Rev Morton) informed the Liberian leader that there was need at this time to establish and maintain a line of communication, consultation, and cooperation between the church and state on all matters including national, social, and religious.

Responding, President Doe thanked the religious leaders for their concern about the situation in the country as expressed in their sentiments. Dr Doe said the words of comfort expressed will not only motivate him to redouble his services to Liberia, but will also add more weight to the management and program his administration has for the nation and its people.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

19 Jan. 1990

